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# *Washington* LABOR MARKET

JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security

Isiah Turner
*Commissioner*

Prepared by the
Labor Market And
Economic Analysis Branch
(206) 438-4800

Gary Bodeutsch
*Director*

In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

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## Highlights

*Economic Thrust Overwhelms Seasonal Pattern*

Washington's nonfarm employment surged ahead in November at a time when normal seasonal factors would dictate a pullback. Rather than dropping an expected 6,000 over the month, statewide payroll employment actually *increased* by 3,800. Fairly typical reductions occurred in the resource based industries – agriculture, food processing, and forest products manufacturing – but services and trade shot up to provide more than compensating offset. In all likelihood, the month-to-month movement will prove an aberration with release of the December figures. But in the meantime, the year-to-year change mounted in November to the highest for the month since 1978.

Unemployment was not comparably affected. The state's jobless rate rose typically by three-tenths of a percentage point over the month to 5.5 percent from a low of 5.2 percent in October. This change basically fol-

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lowed seasonal trend as the economy shifts toward its seasonal low. A similar pattern occurred nationally with the jobless rate rising a comparable two-tenths of a percentage point to 5.2 percent. Both matched their respective levels for the same month a year earlier.

**RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE**

| | Nov 1989 (Prelim.) | Oct 1989 (Revised) | Nov 1988 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Resident Civilian Labor Force** | 2,399,900 | 2,416,000 | 2,311,600 |
| **Employment** | 2,267,300 | 2,290,000 | 2,206,700 |
| **Unemployment** | 132,600 | 126,000 | 121,200 |
| **Unemployment Rate** | 5.5% | 5.2% | 5.5% |
| **National Unemployment Rate** | 5.2% | 5.0% | 5.2% |

*Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.*
*Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data.*

## LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

An end to the apple harvest was largely responsible for a net 22,000 drop in total employment in November. Typically, the month witnesses a drawdown in both labor force and employment before the Christmas buying season boosts activity inordinately in December. The trend was basically in line with a year earlier and the November-to-November margin held firm at 83,000.

For the year to date, total employment has averaged 105,000 or nearly 5 percent higher than 1988. This compares favorably with a cumulative 98,000 increase in nonfarm employment despite erratic fluctuations between the two series in recent months. The national average, meanwhile, has held to a much lower 2 percent rate of increase over the 11-month period.

Unemployment has been level with the prior year for the past two consecutive months after dropping an average of one percentage point annually since 1983. Both October and November were level nationally as well. On a seasonally adjusted basis, Washington's jobless rate actually dropped two tenths of a percent over the month to 5.7 percent.

## INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Only once in the past ten years has nonfarm employment not declined in November and that occurred in 1988 owing to extraordinary ongoing expansion in both aerospace and services. This year's uptick of 3,800 centered predominately in retail trade where payrolls jumped 6,600 as opposed to a more usual 4,000. New and expanded retail outlets in the major metropolitan areas are looked upon as the primary causal factor. In addition, education ( +4,800) and services ( +800) also registered higher than expected.

Another factor at work in November was the Boeing strike, although not officially reported due to timing with respect to payroll cutoff dates. Nonetheless, the 7-week strike continued well into late-November. Logically, it would be safe to assume that some Boeing workers or members of their immediate families took temporary jobs in various services industries as the lengthy strike proceeded to drag on.

*Seasonal Players Pull Back*

Lower activity in the resource-based industries brought fairly typical cuts over the month in agribusiness and forest products manufacturing. Employment in food processing dropped by 2,400. Likewise, the lumber and wood products industry scaled back by 500 mostly in logging as weather once again became a constraining factor.

Equally impacted was a 4,100 loss in construction fairly evenly distributed among building, heavy construction, and special trade contractors. The level of activity, nonetheless, continued to hold employment in November at 108,200 – the highest for the month on record. Area contractors have been hard pressed to meet burgeoning demand coming out of a robust economy and population growth running double the national average.

*Planes and Ships Add More*

Shipbuilding has joined aerospace in boosting employment in transportation equipment manufacturing significantly both over the month and over the year. The major shipyards added 600 workers in the latest month to an industry total exceeding 6,000. Employment has jumped better than 50 percent over the past six months owing to additional repair and modification work.

At the same time, aerospace payrolls expanded by another 500 in November to 116,500. Additions for the year to date measured 10,400 compared to 8,300 for all

of 1988. As the industry has proceeded to expand at a rate greater than that of the total economy, its presence in the scheme of things has progressively heightened. Aerospace as a share of manufacturing employment has gone from a low of 22 percent in 1983 to 32 percent in 1989. At the previous high for the industry in 1968, it registered 36 percent.

*Year-to-Year Comparisons Continue Strong*

The strength in November's overall employment pattern acted to widen the year-over-year margin. Statewide nonfarm employment stood 104,900 higher than a year ago in the latest month—the biggest annual increase for November in more than a decade. Understandably, the biggest increases over the 12-month period continue to be centered in trade ( + 26,100) and services ( + 28,200) which have paced the economy throughout the 7 years of expansion.

The cause of the strong uptick in services and trade revolves around a combination of primary and secondary impacts. Growth in manufacturing, particularly those industries with high employment multipliers, has generated additional demand throughout Washington's service economy. Recent population growth has been a driving factor jumping from an average of 1.2 percent a year in 1985-87 to 2.1 percent over the past two years. And, finally, expansion in such primary services activities as computer software, data processing, advertising, and tourism has generated demand quite separate from that of the state economy.

Some of the standouts in terms of job growth over the past year include business services ( + 8,300) and health care ( + 3,600). Retailing has been dominated by growth at area food stores ( + 6,900). And both resident and visitor impact must be considered in looking at the payroll expansion over the past 12 months at restaurants and drinking establishments ( + 4,700) and amusement and recreational facilities ( + 3,700).

Much of Washington's services economy has expanded over the past year at a pace fully two to three times greater than the national average. Even more to the point, manufacturing locally has held up strongly at a time when national industrial production has fallen off. Statewide manufacturing employment in November, for

example, stood 5 percent or 18,200 workers *above* a year earlier in contrast to a 0.2 percent *decline* nationwide. Roughly 60 percent of that growth has come in aerospace; the remaining 40 percent in other manufacturing. Such momentum this late in the business cycle has largely been responsible for the ongoing strength of Washington's economy through 1989. And substantial carryover will likely impact the early months of 1990.

## IMPACT OF CHANGING TIMBER POLICIES

National forest timber supply policy is in the throes of vastly restructuring the Pacific Northwest's lumber and wood products industry. Land management plans being developed in 1989 under the National Forest Management Act looked to reduce available federal timber cut in the region by an average of 20 percent over the next ten years. But added to this issue came mounting preservationist and environmental efforts to set aside ecological reserves of old growth timber beyond that proposed by the U.S. Forest Service. The resultant loggerhead (pun intended) eventually led to a one-year stop-gap Congressional compromise. The Forest Service is to have final plans for managing the national forests in the 1990's in hand by late September.

Forest products manufacturing represents a $9 billion industry in the State of Washington with 60,000 workers on average in 1989. As a share of statewide activity, the industry accounts for roughly 20 percent of manufacturing gross output and a near equal share of total manufacturing employment. The proportions are much larger in several communities of western Washington where forest products dominates. Because of the seriousness postured by supply constraints to this industrial base, the Economic and Policy Analysis unit of this branch was called upon to measure the logical labor market impact.

### *A Matter of Supply*

Best estimates of available timber harvest in Washington for 1990 are approximately 6.1 billion board feet. The estimate of actual 1989 harvest came in at about 7.4 billion board feet. These reductions over the year are assumed to be across the board: 15 percent less from U.S. forests lands, 6 percent less cut on Department of Natural Resource holdings, and 19 per-

cent less from private ownerships. The net result brings the harvest for the year close to the 6.1 billion board feet figure for 1983.

To compare the number of employed with the timber harvest in that year would ignore the significant productivity gains which have occurred in the interim. A million board feet of output in 1983 required an average of 7 workers in Washington's lumber and wood products industry. That figure today measures 5.7 workers. Applying the current labor ratio to the expected timber shortfall and assuming reasonable inventory carryover constituted the basic methodology.

*A Range of Employment Impacts*

Three scenarios were offered. In the worst case (assuming no inventory carryover) employment in lumber and wood products would drop from an average of 42,600 in 1989 to 35,700 in 1990—a loss of 6,900 jobs. In the most likely scenario, a significant inventory carryover would boost employment in all sectors other than logging. Employment under these assumptions would decline to 36,700—a loss of 5,900 workers. The best case assumed some adjustment toward shorter hours; the net effect brought employment for the year to 37,700—a loss of 4,900 jobs.

Lost wages would measure on the order of $167 million under the worst case and $119 million under both alternatives. The best case assumes a cut in hours, hence the net result equals the wage impact under the moderate scenario. If the earnings and employment multipliers from the *1982 Washington Input Output Study* are applied, the direct and indirect impact of the job loss upon the total state economy could be anywhere from 14,500 to 20,400 and the wage loss could range from $294 million to $415 million.

*Regions Within Regions*

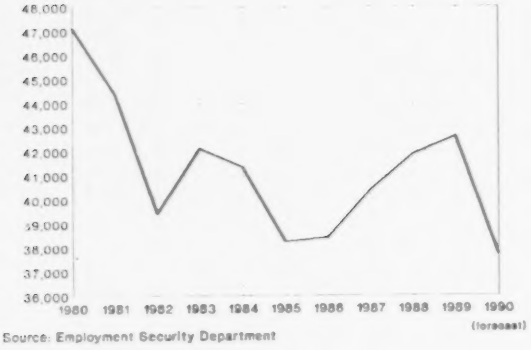
Whatever cutbacks occur, the impacts will not be uniform across the state. The most serious implications are to the economies of the Olympic Peninsula and Southwest Washington. Both areas rely heavily upon logging and forest products manufacturing for their livelihood. In four counties (Clallam, Grays Harbor, Wahkiakum, and Skamania), forest products represents upwards of three-quarters of all manufacturing. Additional impact would come in transportation services

where an estimated 600 worker loss might be expected to occur principally in trucking. A reduction in waterborne exports, moreover, could weigh heavily upon those ports throughout the state keyed specifically to the shipment of forest products.

*Other Issues*

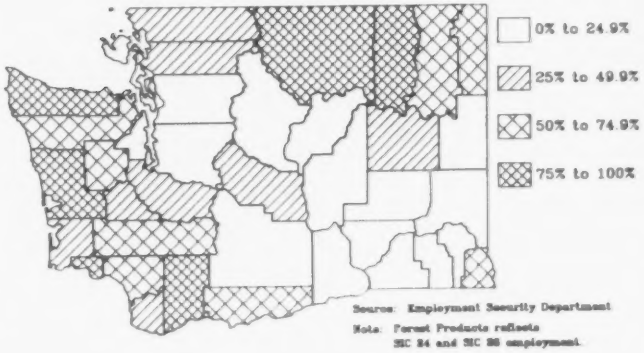
In the short run, it is safe to assume that any restriction of product in a given market will likely lead to some price increase. How much is uncertain. But the impact would undoubtedly wind its way through building materials to eventually affect the cost of housing. Over the longer term, some measure of substitution with alternative building materials might logically be expected. At this juncture, however, all that is known is that action to restrict timber supply will configure the forest products industry of the Pacific Northwest differently from that of the past. This study was one attempt to measure the implications of that change.

**Logging and Lumber Employment**
**Washington State, 1980-1990**




Source: Employment Security Department

**Timber Dependent Counties in Washington State**
**Forest Products as a Percent of Manufacturing Employment, 1988**




## AREA TRENDS

*Puget Power*

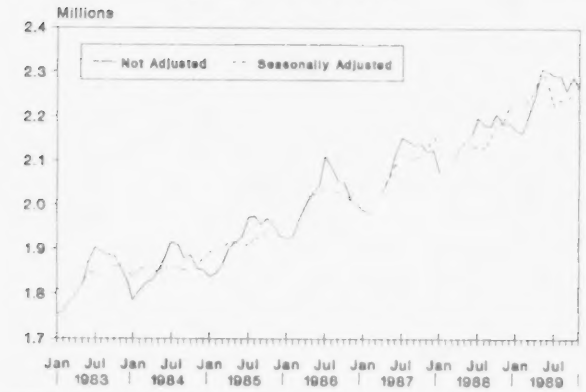
November unemployment in the Seattle Metropolitan Area dropped two tenths of percentage point to 3.9 percent – the lowest of any month since October 1968. This marked the first time in 21 years that the rate of joblessness in the PMSA moved below 4 percent. By all indicators, this signals what amounts to a full employment economy at the local level. Over the past five years, the two-county area, which holds 50 percent of the state's population, has accounted for fully 60 percent of the state's total nonfarm job increase. Tacoma and Spokane registered closely in line with the statewide average in

the latest month at 5.2 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively.

*Seasonals Elsewhere*

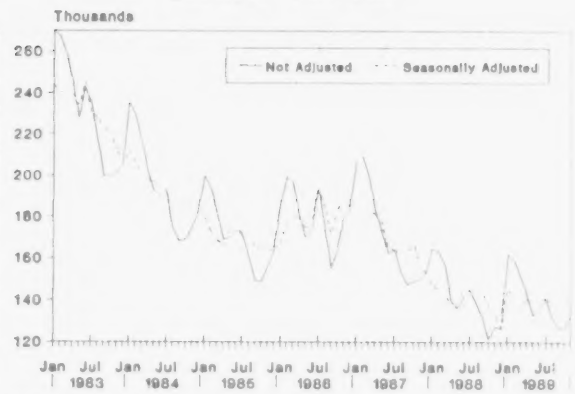
With seasonal downturns in agriculture and forest products, area joblessness in the resource-based economies heightened over the month. The lumber-dependent counties shifted from 7.7 percent unemployed in October to 9.0 percent in November. Likewise, eastern Washington moved up from 6.6 percent to 8.4 percent. The latter stood roughly a percentage point higher than the same month a year earlier. Economic conditions in those areas, however, have not materially changed over the year. Part of the explanation is likely the settling in process taking place among migrant farm workers as a result of the 1987 Immigration Reform and Control Act.

**State Total Resident Employment**
**Jan 1983 - Nov 1989**




SOURCE: Employment Security Department

**State Total Resident Unemployment**
**Jan 1983 - Nov 1989**




SOURCE: Employment Security Department

## INDUSTRY NOTES

*Boeing Backsteps*

The Boeing Company has announced a 5,000-worker reduction for 1990—the first major pullback in employment in six years. The adjustment is expected to be accomplished half through layoffs and half through normal attrition. Roughly 1,700 production workers are scheduled to be released between March and April with another 800 cut sometime before the end of the year. Defense cutbacks and improved efficiencies on the 747-400 are the primary causal factors. Boeing's workforce in the Puget Sound area has climbed to record highs in

recent years; the adjustment is from a very high base. Moreover, the Seattle area unemployment rate currently stands at a 20-year low with shortages of skilled workers in many key industries providing something of a ready market.

*Hanford Nets Out At 300*

Under the President's proposed 1991 fiscal year budget, funding for the Hanford Nuclear Reservation would jump 22 percent next year to a record $1.2 billion. The news has mixed blessings, however. Included is a plan to close the 10-year old Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) directly impacting 1,100 workers; 300 in fiscal 1991. On the flip side is additional spending for waste cleanup and environmental restoration. Employment in this area would increase from approximately 4,600 to 5,300. The net result would be 300 new jobs, boosting Hanford employment from 13,100 to 13,400 workers.

*Peace Dividend Is An Add-on*

On balance, Washington State is looked to benefit from defense cuts proposed for the 1990's. A Pentagon plan would deactivate the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis but replace it with the 7th Infantry Division currently stationed at Fort Ord. The net result would be a 3,000 troop *increase* at the Tacoma military base by 1993. Temporarily, the military population would drop from 22,000 to 16,000 in 1992 as the 9th Division is disbanded. But thereafter it would build to a strength of 25,000. Included in the proposed 1991 defense budget is $108 million for the rail based MX missile system at Fairchild AFB near Spokane; $22 million for continued construction of the Navy's aircraft carrier homeport at Everett; and $56 million for ongoing construction at the Trident submarine base at Bangor. In addition, proposed closure of the Long Beach CA Naval Shipyard would mean a likely shift of workload to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton.

## NATIONAL INDICATORS

*Key Index Points Positive*

The index of leading indicators, designed as the government's chief forecasting gauge, moved upward by 0.1 percent in November after falling 0.3 percent in October. The see-saw action in recent months has made a determination of trend difficult. But for the most part, the pattern substantiates the view that the economy,

while slowing, has not reached the point of recession. The rule of thumb is that three consecutive months of decline in the index presages a recession six months out; in fact, the index has risen in two of the past three months. Among the components pushing the index up in November were a decrease in claims for unemployment, growth in the money supply, and increases in factory orders for consumer goods, increases in new orders for plant and equipment, and higher manufacturers' backlog.

*Consumers Back To The Bar*

Meanwhile, consumer spending rose sharply in November for the first time in three months. Spending lagged in both September and October, but early holiday sales and special auto promotions lifted sales by 0.7 percent in November to $3.64 trillion. At the same time, personal income grew at a healthy 0.8 percent annual clip, matching the October pace, to $4.54 trillion. Even discounting insurance payments and other special factors associated with Hurricane Hugo and the California earthquake, the increase over the month was significant. The American consumer appears to be well and alive.

*Less Take From Prices*

Consumer prices took less of a bite in November, advancing 0.4 percent as against 0.5 percent a month before. Rising food and housing costs accounted for better than half of November's uptick; services costs continued to be entrenched at a 0.6 percent rate of increase. Over the year, the Consumer Price Index for urban consumers was up 4.6 percent compared to 4.3 percent in November 1988.

*Hail To Thee Capital Spending*

Growth in capital spending is looked to undergird the economy again in 1990. According to the latest Commerce Department survey, U.S. business plans to boost spending for new plant and equipment by 6.4 percent over the year at a time when the economy is looked to be sluggish. The increase for 1989 was estimated at 10.3 percent. While somewhat slower than a year ago, the projection for 1990 comes atop two year's of booming capital investment outlays and will certainly help to keep the seven-year economic expansion alive. Economists generally had expected an end to the capital spending boom given the drop in industrial operating rates and slipping corporate profits.

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

| | INDEXES | | | % CHANGE FROM | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **U.S. AVG** | Nov 89 | Oct 89 | Nov 88 | Oct 89 | Nov 88 |
| | 125.9 | 125.6 | 120.3 | 0.2% | 4.7% |
| **SEATTLE†** | Jan-Jun 1989 | Jan-Jun 1988 | | Jan-Jun 1988 | |
| | 116.7 | 111.9 | | 4.3% | |

*†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties*

*SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics*

## Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work[1]

(In Thousands)

| Industry | Nov 1989 (Prel) | Oct 1989 (Rev) | Nov 1988 (Rev) | Oct 1988 (Rev) | Numeric Change: Oct 1989 to Nov 1989 | Numeric Change: Nov 1988 to Nov 1989 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY | 2091.1 | 2087.3 | 1986.2 | 1984.6 | 3.8 | 104.9 |
| MANUFACTURING | 365.9 | 367.7 | 347.7 | 347.1 | -1.8 | 18.2 |
| Durable Goods | 263.2 | 262.6 | 248.2 | 245.8 | 0.6 | 15.0 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 42.1 | 42.6 | 41.9 | 42.3 | -0.5 | 0.2 |
| Furniture & Fixtures | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.3 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass | 7.6 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 7.7 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Primary Metals | 13.1 | 13.1 | 13.3 | 13.2 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Aluminum | 8.8 | 8.8 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Fabricated Metals | 11.5 | 11.7 | 11.2 | 11.4 | -0.2 | 0.3 |
| Machinery | 34.2 | 34.1 | 32.5 | 31.8[3] | 0.1 | 1.7 |
| Machinery (Exc. Elec.) | 19.6 | 19.5 | 18.6 | 18.6 | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| Electrical Equip | 14.6 | 14.6 | 13.9 | 13.2[3] | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Transportation Equip | 132.5 | 131.4 | 120.1 | 118.0 | 1.1 | 12.4 |
| Aerospace | 116.5[4] | 116.0[4] | 105.1 | 102.9 | 0.5 | 11.4 |
| Other Transp. Equip | 16.0 | 15.4 | 15.0 | 15.1 | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| Instruments & Related | 11.8 | 11.8 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Misc. Manufacturing | 6.1 | 6.0 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Nondurable Goods | 102.7 | 105.1 | 99.5 | 101.3 | -2.4 | 3.2 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 36.1 | 38.5 | 34.6 | 36.5 | -2.4 | 1.5 |
| Canned & Preserved Foods | 14.5 | 16.9 | 13.6 | 15.4 | -2.4 | 0.9 |
| Apparel & Allied Products | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 17.2 | 17.2 | 16.9 | 17.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Printing & Publishing | 22.4 | 22.4 | 21.9 | 21.8 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 10.4 | 10.4 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Other Nondurable Goods[2] | 10.2 | 10.2 | 9.7 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| MINING & QUARRYING | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 110.6 | 114.7 | 99.8 | 104.7 | -4.1 | 10.8 |
| TRANSP.,COMM. & UTIL. | 108.2 | 108.2 | 103.4 | 103.6 | 0.0 | 4.8 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 515.5 | 509.6 | 489.4 | 486.3 | 5.9 | 26.1 |
| Wholesale Trade | 123.1 | 123.8 | 118.3 | 119.3 | -0.7 | 4.8 |
| Retail Trade | 392.4 | 385.8 | 371.1 | 367.0 | 6.6 | 21.3 |
| FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE | 116.1 | 115.9 | 111.1 | 110.8 | 0.2 | 5.0 |
| SERVICES | 481.3 | 480.5 | 453.1 | 453.5 | 0.8 | 28.2 |
| Health Services | 140.7 | 140.0 | 135.1 | 134.7 | 0.7 | 5.6 |
| GOVERNMENT | 390.1 | 387.2 | 378.2 | 375.1 | 2.9 | 11.9 |
| Federal | 73.6 | 73.5 | 71.4 | 71.7 | 0.1 | 2.2 |
| State & Local | 316.5 | 313.7 | 306.8 | 303.4 | 2.8 | 9.7 |
| Education | 171.1 | 166.3 | 166.9 | 162.6 | 4.8 | 4.2 |
| WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.0 | -0.5 |

[1]Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

[2]Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

[3]Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

[4]Labor dispute in aerospace affecting 42,900 workers from October 4 to November 22 not reflected as workers were on the job a portion of the pay period which included the 12th of the month.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

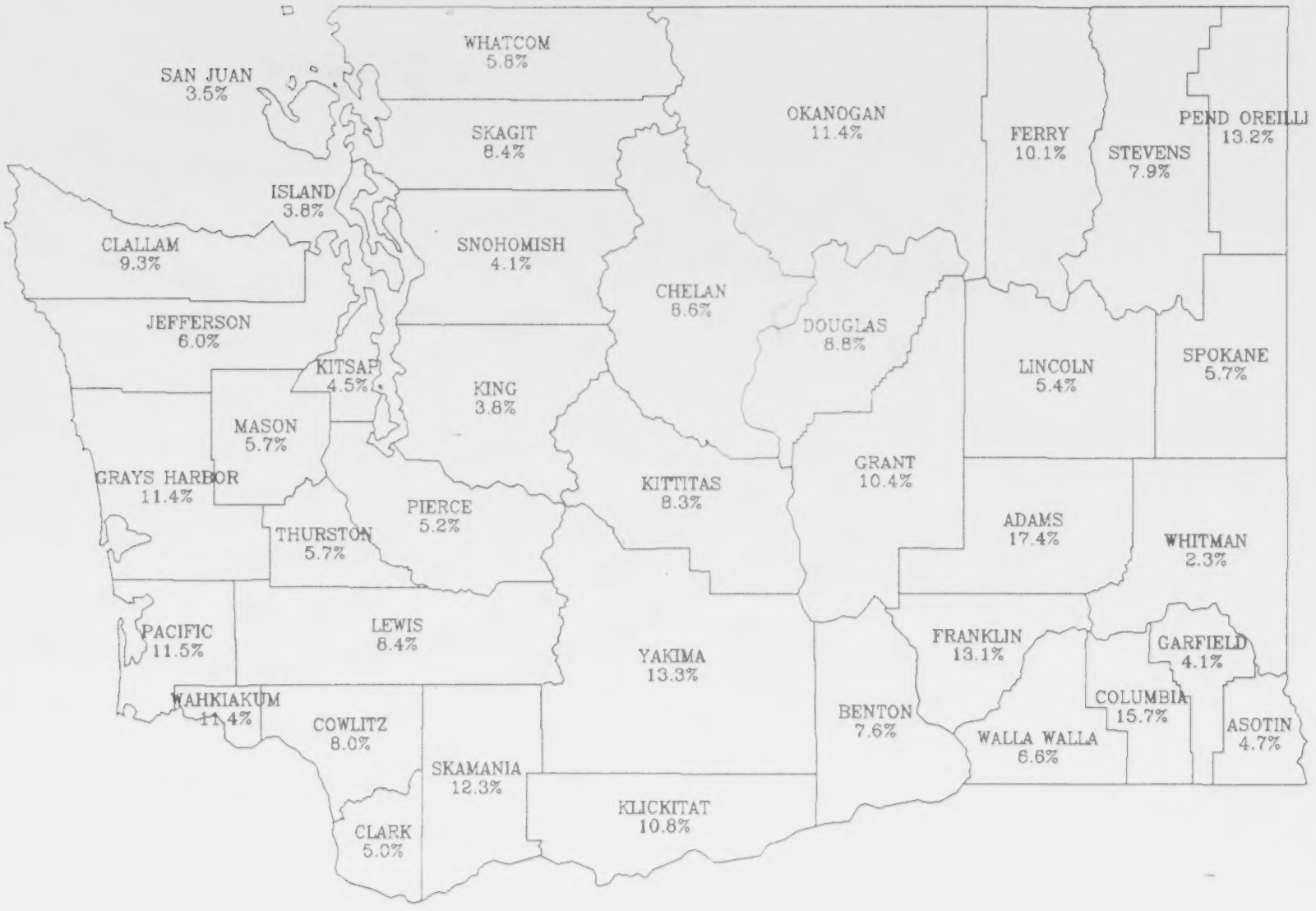
# Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 1/3/90
Benchmark: 1988

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| | November 1989 Preliminary† | | | | October 1989 Revised† | | | | November 1988 Revised† | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force | Employ-ment | Unem-ployment | Unemp. Rate | Labor Force | Employ-ment | Unem-ployment | Unemp. Rate | Labor Force | Employ-ment | Unem-ployment | Unemp. Rate |
| Washinton State Total | 2,399,900 | 2,267,300 | 132,600 | 5.5 | 2,416,000 | 2,290,000 | 126,000 | 5.2 | 2,311,600 | 2,184,200 | 127,400 | 5.5 |
| Bellingham MSA | 59,900 | 56,400 | 3,500 | 5.8 | 60,600 | 57,000 | 3,600 | 5.9 | 59,100 | 55,500 | 3,600 | 6.1 |
| Bremerton MSA | 77,200 | 73,700 | 3,500 | 4.5 | 77,000 | 73,300 | 3,700 | 4.8 | 76,100 | 72,600 | 3,500 | 4.6 |
| Olympia MSA | 78,800 | 74,300 | 4,500 | 5.7 | 77,700 | 73,400 | 4,300 | 5.5 | 75,800 | 71,400 | 4,400 | 5.8 |
| Seattle PMSA | 1,099,000 | 1,056,400 | 42,600 | 3.9 | 1,092,300 | 1,047,300 | 45,000 | 4.1 | 1,044,700 | 1,000,100 | 44,600 | 4.3 |
| King County‡ | 869,500 | 836,400 | 33,100 | 3.8 | 864,300 | 829,200 | 35,100 | 4.1 | 826,400 | 791,900 | 34,500 | 4.2 |
| Snohomish County‡ | 229,400 | 219,900 | 9,500 | 4.1 | 227,900 | 218,000 | 9,900 | 4.3 | 218,400 | 208,200 | 10,200 | 4.7 |
| Spokane MSA | 169,100 | 159,500 | 9,600 | 5.7 | 169,700 | 160,100 | 9,600 | 5.7 | 168,000 | 158,900 | 9,100 | 5.4 |
| Tacoma PMSA | 255,700 | 242,400 | 13,300 | 5.2 | 252,800 | 238,900 | 13,900 | 5.5 | 246,000 | 232,300 | 13,700 | 5.6 |
| Tri-Cities MSA | 67,000 | 61,000 | 6,000 | 9.0 | 68,500 | 63,600 | 4,900 | 7.2 | 64,700 | 59,200 | 5,500 | 8.5 |
| Benton County‡ | 51,000 | 47,100 | 3,900 | 7.6 | 52,900 | 49,100 | 3,800 | 7.2 | 49,400 | 45,700 | 3,700 | 7.5 |
| Franklin County‡ | 16,000 | 13,900 | 2,100 | 13.1 | 15,700 | 14,500 | 1,200 | 7.6 | 15,300 | 13,500 | 1,800 | 11.8 |
| Vancouver PMSA | 118,700 | 112,800 | 5,900 | 5.0 | 119,200 | 113,500 | 5,700 | 4.8 | 115,000 | 109,100 | 5,900 | 5.1 |
| Yakima MSA | 92,300 | 80,000 | 12,300 | 13.3 | 101,400 | 92,600 | 8,800 | 8.7 | 89,600 | 80,100 | 9,500 | 10.6 |
| Adams | 6,390 | 5,280 | 1,110 | 17.4 | 6,940 | 6,500 | 440 | 6.3 | 6,030 | 5,370 | 660 | 10.9 |
| Asotin | 9,580 | 9,130 | 450 | 4.7 | 9,600 | 9,230 | 370 | 3.9 | 9,330 | 8,910 | 420 | 4.5 |
| Clallam | 22,660 | 20,550 | 2,110 | 9.3 | 22,390 | 20,710 | 1,680 | 7.5 | 22,630 | 20,970 | 1,660 | 7.3 |
| Columbia | 1,530 | 1,290 | 240 | 15.7 | 1,450 | 1,270 | 180 | 12.4 | 1,500 | 1,270 | 230 | 15.3 |
| Cowlitz | 35,270 | 32,440 | 2,830 | 8.0 | 35,570 | 32,790 | 2,780 | 7.8 | 35,400 | 32,930 | 2,470 | 7.0 |
| Ferry | 2,970 | 2,670 | 300 | 10.1 | 2,990 | 2,710 | 280 | 9.4 | 2,810 | 2,500 | 310 | 11.0 |
| Garfield | 980 | 940 | 40 | 4.1 | 1,000 | 970 | 30 | 3.0 | 1,020 | 990 | 30 | 2.9 |
| Grant | 23,750 | 21,280 | 2,470 | 10.4 | 25,890 | 23,930 | 1,960 | 7.6 | 22,770 | 20,600 | 2,170 | 9.5 |
| Grays Harbor | 25,770 | 22,820 | 2,950 | 11.4 | 25,510 | 23,030 | 2,480 | 9.7 | 24,370 | 22,210 | 2,160 | 8.9 |
| Island | 20,260 | 19,480 | 780 | 3.8 | 20,570 | 19,570 | 1,000 | 4.9 | 19,210 | 18,370 | 840 | 4.4 |
| Jefferson | 8,450 | 7,940 | 510 | 6.0 | 8,460 | 7,990 | 470 | 5.6 | 8,330 | 7,880 | 450 | 5.4 |
| Kittitas | 11,780 | 10,800 | 980 | 8.3 | 11,870 | 11,070 | 800 | 6.7 | 11,420 | 10,580 | 840 | 7.4 |
| Klickitat | 7,510 | 6,700 | 810 | 10.8 | 7,850 | 7,200 | 650 | 8.3 | 7,210 | 6,530 | 680 | 9.4 |
| Lewis | 24,970 | 22,870 | 2,100 | 8.4 | 24,830 | 23,030 | 1,800 | 7.2 | 24,600 | 22,680 | 1,920 | 7.8 |
| Lincoln | 3,910 | 3,700 | 210 | 5.4 | 4,010 | 3,860 | 150 | 3.7 | 4,260 | 4,050 | 210 | 4.9 |
| Mason | 15,400 | 14,520 | 880 | 5.7 | 15,460 | 14,540 | 920 | 6.0 | 13,660 | 12,870 | 790 | 5.8 |
| Okanogan | 15,200 | 13,460 | 1,740 | 11.4 | 19,380 | 18,020 | 1,360 | 7.0 | 15,200 | 13,580 | 1,620 | 10.7 |
| Pacific | 7,510 | 6,650 | 860 | 11.5 | 7,160 | 6,500 | 660 | 9.2 | 7,340 | 6,670 | 670 | 9.1 |
| Pend Oreille | 3,570 | 3,100 | 470 | 13.2 | 3,330 | 2,920 | 410 | 12.3 | 3,370 | 3,030 | 340 | 10.1 |
| San Juan | 4,800 | 4,630 | 170 | 3.5 | 5,100 | 4,910 | 190 | 3.7 | 4,910 | 4,670 | 240 | 4.9 |
| Skagit | 32,720 | 29,960 | 2,760 | 8.4 | 33,840 | 31,350 | 2,490 | 7.4 | 31,470 | 29,000 | 2,470 | 7.8 |
| Skamania | 2,430 | 2,130 | 300 | 12.3 | 2,400 | 2,140 | 260 | 10.8 | 2,190 | 1,880 | 310 | 14.2 |
| Stevens | 11,910 | 10,970 | 940 | 7.9 | 12,060 | 11,190 | 870 | 7.2 | 11,530 | 10,680 | 850 | 7.4 |
| Wahkiakum | 1,230 | 1,090 | 140 | 11.4 | 1,200 | 1,120 | 80 | 6.7 | 1,140 | 1,060 | 80 | 7.0 |
| Walla Walla | 23,360 | 21,820 | 1,540 | 6.6 | 23,570 | 22,380 | 1,190 | 5.0 | 23,020 | 21,550 | 1,470 | 6.4 |
| Wenatchee Labor Area | 38,360 | 35,040 | 3,320 | 8.7 | 44,480 | 41,680 | 2,800 | 6.3 | 38,710 | 35,760 | 2,950 | 7.6 |
| Chelan County‡ | 25,660 | 23,460 | 2,200 | 8.6 | 29,870 | 27,910 | 1,960 | 6.6 | 25,960 | 23,950 | 2,010 | 7.7 |
| Douglas County‡ | 12,700 | 11,580 | 1,120 | 8.8 | 14,610 | 13,770 | 840 | 5.7 | 12,760 | 11,820 | 940 | 7.4 |
| Whitman | 19,970 | 19,510 | 460 | 2.3 | 20,030 | 19,770 | 260 | 1.3 | 19,040 | 18,350 | 690 | 3.6 |

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data.
‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.




## November Statewide Unemployment Rate = 5.5%

## Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, State of Washington

| | Prelim Nov Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nov 89 | Oct 89 | Nov 88 | Nov 89 | Oct 89 | Nov 88 | Nov 89 | Oct 89 | Nov 88 |
| **TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES**[1] | 218,054 | $375.46 | $404.59 | $498.56 | 31.9 | 34.2 | 41.0 | $11.77 | $11.83 | $12.16 |
| **SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lumber and Wood Products | 35,019 | $445.96 | $465.53 | $417.73 | 39.5 | 40.8 | 38.5 | $11.29 | $11.41 | $10.85 |
| Primary Metal Industries | 10,046 | $583.63 | $562.28 | $539.25 | 43.2 | 42.5 | 42.9 | $13.51 | $13.23 | $12.57 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 9,315 | $465.16 | $474.42 | $460.92 | 40.1 | 39.8 | 39.7 | $11.60 | $11.92 | $11.61 |
| Machinery | 22,412 | $391.64 | $397.94 | $383.11 | 39.4 | 39.4 | 40.8 | $9.94 | $10.10 | $9.39 |
| Food and Kindred Products | 26,961 | $357.49 | $371.87 | $329.96 | 37.2 | 39.9 | 36.5 | $9.61 | $9.32 | $9.04 |
| Chemical and Allied Products | 4,044 | $630.48 | $619.92 | $637.56 | 42.6 | 42.0 | 38.2 | $14.80 | $14.76 | $16.69 |
| Transportation Equipment | 62,482 | $200.68 | $270.47 | $664.89 | 14.5 | 17.9 | 45.2 | $13.84 | $15.11 | $14.71 |
| **SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | 81,499 | $599.65 | $612.15 | $584.10 | 35.8 | 37.1 | 36.1 | $16.75 | $16.50 | $16.18 |
| Wholesale and Retail Trade | 324,895 | $332.32 | $337.90 | $306.18 | 33.5 | 34.2 | 32.4 | $9.92 | $9.88 | $9.45 |
| (Does not include eating and drinking establishments) | | | | | | | | | | |

[1]Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.